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QUESTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS SUBJECTED TO
ANY FORM OF DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT

Written statement submitted by the International Educational Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization on the Roster

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

[20 February 1995]

1. International Educational Development/Humanitarian Law Project (IED/HLP) presents to the Commission on Human Rights information provided by the Medical Centre for Human Rights, Zagreb, Croatia concerning sexual torture of Bosnian and Croatian men in camps and territory controlled by Serbian forces.

2. Victims of sexual torturing of men were tortured in camps and on occupied territories, in large number, together with yells: "You will never again make Ustasha/Muslim children" and so on, which shows that it was done systematically, and for the purpose of destroying their reproductive function. Of course, men in camps were sexually tortured for purely homosexual motives too, but it was insignificant compared with already mentioned motives.

3. The largest number of victims of sexual torturing were between 20 and 60 years old, that is in reproductive age, which shows, even more than what was mentioned before, that the sexual torturing of men was planned and with a purpose.

4. The types of sexual torturing to which men were subjected, in camps and on occupied territories (the code-letters of the most characteristic testimonies are given):

(a) Raping of men

5. A certain number of cases were registered in camps Sremska Mitrovica, Omarska and Manjača, where the rapists were enemy soldiers, that is guards in the camps, and the torturing was performed only because of their homosexual perversity (an example of the testimonies: victim from Vukovar, Croat, testimony SIL.M.-1493, raped in camp Sremska Mitrovica by a Serbian soldier). A special way of sexually torturing men was registered in camp Omarska, where the prisoners were forced by Serbian soldiers to mutual sexual intercourse, under the threat of weapons (an example of the testimonies: SIL.M.-765; in concentration camp in Korenica, two men were forced to mutual sexual intercourse).

(b) Castrations and semi-castrations

1. Victims of total castration

6. All victims in this group died, because total castrations always lead to death. From the testimonies of witnesses, those castrations were done while the victims were still alive. Those cases were registered in Kusonje and Doljani, and the victims were castrated with sharp objects (an example of the testimonies: SIL.M.-1021, in camp Stara Gradiška and BOS.P.-214 and DO.-45 ... his trousers were taken off, and his genitals were massacred). In camp Omarska, Serbian soldiers were forcing prisoners to bite off each other's genitals. According to testimonies of witnesses, not even one victim survived this and other methods of torturing (an example of the testimonies: KL.-OMA.-1769). One group of victims were castrated immediately after they died, and we think that it was done only to achieve psychological effects.

2. Victims of semi-castration

7. This group are victims who survived the torture, and who were tortured in the following ways:

Cutting off scrotums (an example of the testimonies: BOR.-123);

Binding genitals with cord and tearing with pincers (an example of the testimonies: KNIN-1763);

Binding genitals with wire (an example of the testimonies: KNIN-1756);

Genital circumcising with military knife (an example of the testimonies: SA.-151).

(c) Injuries of scrotums with obtuse objects

8. This method was used the most often. It was used when men were captured, and all the time in camps. Torturing was performed by soldiers and guards in camps. They were beating prisoners with sticks, legs or butt-ends of rifles, over the genitals. All victims we have dealt with so far have told us that they went through this kind of torturing. From their medical history, we could find out that the victims had oedema of the scrotum, that lasted at least 24 hours, which means that a certain number of those victims will be sterile, after the oedema lead to lack of blood in the scrotum, which causes damage to the reproductive cells. From victims and witnesses we found out that this method was performed in all camps and mostly on men of reproductive age:

Victims from Knin

Victims from Paragovo

Victims from camp Stara Gradiška

Victims from camp Omarska

As specific injuries to the scrotum we registered injuries by X-rays on one victim from Novi Sad.

9. IED/HLP concludes that these acts are genocidal in intent and in result. Accordingly, we will present this information to the tribunal established to address war crimes in the former Yugoslavia. We urge the Commission to condemn these acts and to request the Special Rapporteur to report on these and other instances of genocide arising from the conflicts in the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

TESTIMONY KL.-S.G.-1021

A man born in 1952, Croatian by nationality, lived in Gornji Cerovac, municipality of Slunj. Arrested at Bosanski Novi on 20 November 1991. Detained in the Nova Gradiška camp. Beaten and maltreated: "We came to Jazavčar, village near Okučani ... We pulled out four corpses there, they were in that hole for about one month. We put them one near another. Later we pulled out two more corpses. We had to take off all their clothes. One of them had the mark of 'Tigers'. We covered the clothes with earth and brought corpses to the road. There we had to wash them and put on white sheets. Then I saw chopped heads without eyes, chopped arms, scorched wounds, genitals tied with string and pulled out (with pliers, probably), cut throats and everything. They made photos of it."

TESTIMONY SIL.M.-1493

A man from Vukovar, 40 years old, 20 November, Croatian by nationality. Taken to the Sremska Mitrovica camp where he was beaten and maltreated: *"One day, in the afternoon, a guard arrived and ordered me to go with him. He took me to the toilet in the camp, under threat that he would kill me; he ordered me to take off my trousers and then he raped me in the toilet."*

TESTIMONY PRIJ.-408

A man born in 1945, Muslim, lived in Kozarac, municipality of Prijedor, captured as civilian by Chetniks and taken to Keraterm and Omarska camps where he was beaten and maltreated: *"One of the most disgusting crimes happened on 16 June 1992, when Jasmin Hrnić, Emir Karabasić - policeman, Hasan Kilić and E.J. had to cut off genitals one to each other. All of them, except J.E., died due to consequences. J.E. is deranged now. Perpetrators of that crime were: Nikica Janić, Dule Tadić and Ljubo Tadić. J.E. had to eat genitals. There were more such cases."*

TESTIMONY K.L.BEG.-952

A man born in 1957, lived in Bapska, municipality of Vukovar. On 17 October 1992 abducted from the convoy by the JNA and taken to the Begejci camp. Beaten and maltreated: *"I was beaten by four military policemen. Usually four of them beat one man. They beat with sticks, fists, feet. They beat me over my genitals, kidneys, over the whole body. They beat me especially over my genitals. They knew that I had three children and that my woman was pregnant. They were beating me by saying: 'F... your Ustasha mother, you will not make little Croats any more!'"*

TESTIMONY KL.MANJ.-686

A man born in 1967, Croatian by nationality, lived in the village of Batnoga, municipality of Slunj. Arrested in Ključ and taken to the Stara Gradiška camp. Beaten and maltreated: *"They beat me with a stick over the whole body and over my genitals."*

TESTIMONY KL.OMA.-561

A man born in 1961, Muslim, lived in Prijedor. Taken to the Omarska camp where he was beaten and maltreated: *"I was hit, as all others, over my testicles. They used metal bars, tubes, wooden sticks, boots. My testicles were swollen - they were like big oranges. ... During the hardest tortures they would put tin cans on our heads so we could not see who beat us. They beat us intentionally over our testicles by saying: 'You will never more make Muslim children'. ... I saw them forcing Muslims to bite off testicles. Their mouths were full of blood and testicles. Every day, Serbian torturers were forcing Muslims to f... each other, they were forcing them to do oral sex. They especially were forcing members of family to do that - father and son ... Omarska had also woman prisoners. Serbs would take 5-6 Serbian soldiers, prisoners, on daily bases to one girl, in order to rape them. Sometimes I was among those who had to rape them. ... I was present when Serbian guard took a tube to man's posterior and let the water go till the moment the man was blown up and died."*

TESTIMONY KNIN.-895

A man born in 1951, Croatian by nationality, lived in Jukinac, municipality of Glina. Arrested and taken to Knin. Beaten and maltreated: *"The worst kind of torture was when they tied wire around my genitals and when they turned on electricity."*

TESTIMONY KL.STA.-609

A man born in 1948, Croat by nationality, lived in Vukovar. Arrested on 19 November 1991. Taken to Stajićevo and Begejci, beaten and maltreated: *"They beat us even at our genitals. They beat us harshly till the arrival of the ICRC, on 4 December 1991."*

TESTIMONY PROT.-592

A man born in 1942, Croat by nationality, lived in Bapska, municipality of Vukovar. Lived in the occupied territory to April 1992, when he was expelled. Beaten and maltreated: *"On 8 April 1992 they entered my house and hit me over my stomach and testicles. They grabbed me and loaded me onto a van, without anything."*

TESTIMONY KNIN.-935

A man born 1962, Croatian by nationality, lived in Rupalj, municipality of Zadar. Arrested in Zadar, when he was passing by the JNA barracks "Šepurine" by the JNA officer Nikola Milošević. Taken to Knin, beaten and maltreated: *"Soon after our arrival at the Knin prison we were stripped to the skin and beaten with sticks over our genitals and other parts of the body. Medical documentation is enclosed with the statement."*

TESTIMONY PRIJ.-1390

A man born in 1933, Croat by nationality, lived in Briševo, municipality of Prijedor. Captured on 24 June 1992 and taken to the Keraterm, Omarska, Manjača, Knin camps. Beaten and maltreated: *"They would strip us to the skin and forced us to bite genitals one to each other."*

TESTIMONY KL.-BEG.-252

A man born in 1966, lives in Zagreb. Croat by nationality. Captured in Ilok as a wounded person and then taken to Novi Sad hospital. X-rayed over the whole body and genitals several times: "They X-rayed us 7-8 times in order to expose us as much as possible."